

Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A process for making hose comprising the steps of:

5 pressurizing an extruded rubber hose;

trapping air inside said hose by sealing engagement of said hose with a mandrel
and by sealing engagement of said hose with pinch rollers; and,

vulcanizing said hose from the outside to the inside using a non-contact energy
source.

10 4. (Canceled)

5. (Withdrawn) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 4 wherein said
first energy source is a microwave heater.

6. (Withdrawn) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 4 wherein said
first energy source is an electric heating coil.

15 7. (Canceled) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 4 wherein said first
energy source is a hot air heater.

8. (Withdrawn) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 4 wherein said
first energy source is an infrared heater.

9. (Previously presented) A process for making hose comprising the steps of:

20 pressurizing an extruded rubber hose includes by supplying air to and through a
check valve in a mandrel and into a cavity formed by said check valve, said mandrel, said

hose and pinch rollers;

trapping air inside said hose; and,

vulcanizing said hose from the outside to the inside using a non-contact energy source.

5 10. (Withdrawn) A hose made according to the process of claim 1.

11. (Previously presented) A process for making extruded rubber hose comprising the steps of:

extruding rubber hose over a mandrel such that said rubber hose forms a seal as said hose exits said mandrel;

10 tensioning and sealing said rubber hose as it is drawn through pinch rollers by a haul-off; and,

vulcanizing, utilizing a non-contact heater, said hose intermediate said mandrel and said pinch rollers.

15 12. (Original) A process for making an extruded rubber hose as claimed in claim 11 wherein said vulcanization occurs at a temperature of between 220°F - 350°F.

13. (Previously presented) A process for making an extruded rubber hose as claimed in claim 11 wherein said vulcanizing is performed by a non-contact steam tube.

14. (Withdrawn) A process for making an extruded rubber hose as claimed in claim 11 wherein said vulcanizing is performed by an infrared heater.

20 15. (Withdrawn) A process for making an extruded rubber hose as claimed in claim 11 wherein said vulcanizing is performed by a microwave heater.

16. (Withdrawn) A process for making an extruded rubber hose as claimed in claim 11 wherein said vulcanizing is performed by electric heating coils.

17. (Previously presented) A process for making hose comprising the steps of:
extruding rubber onto, into and through a woven fabric forming an unvulcanized
5 rubber hose;
pressurizing said unvulcanized rubber hose with a gas;
sealing the inside of said rubber hose with respect to a mandrel;
pulling the unvulcanized rubber hose through a non-contact heater vulcanizing said
rubber hose; and,

10 pinching and sealing said vulcanized hose as it is removed from said heater.

18. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 17 wherein the step of pressurizing said unvulcanized rubber hose with a gas includes intermittently supplying gas under pressure through a gas supply cup to said inside of said rubber hose.

19. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 18 wherein the step of pressurizing said unvulcanized rubber hose includes intermittently supplying gas under pressure through a gas supply cup, into and through a tube interconnected with said
15 mandrel, and into and through a check valve and into said inside of said rubber hose.

20. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 19 further comprising the step of measuring the outside diameter of the vulcanized rubber hose and varying the frequency of said intermittent supply of gas to said inside of said rubber hose
20 in response to said measurement of outside diameter of said hose.

21. (Withdrawn) A hose made according to the process of claim 17.
22. (Withdrawn) A hose made according to the process of claim 18.
23. (Withdrawn) A hose made according to the process of claim 19.
24. (Withdrawn) A hose made according to the process of claim 20.
- 5 25. (Original) A process for making hose comprising the steps of:
feeding woven cloth over a tube and a mandrel;
supplying gas through said woven cloth, into said tube, and through said mandrel;
extruding rubber onto, into and through a woven fabric forming an unvulcanized
rubber hose;
- 10 pressurizing said unvulcanized rubber hose with said gas;
sealing the inside of said hose with respect to said mandrel;
pulling said unvulcanized rubber hose through a heater vulcanizing said rubber
hose; and,
sealing said rubber hose as it is removed from said heater.
- 15 26. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 25 further
comprising the step of measuring the outside diameter of said hose upon exit from said
heater.
- 20 27. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 26 wherein said step
of supplying gas through said woven cloth and into said tube is performed intermittently
at a frequency necessary to insure the correct diametrical dimensions of said hose.
28. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 27 wherein said

frequency of supplying air through said woven jacket is increased when said outside diameter is too small and said frequency of supply air is decreased when said outside diameter is too large.

29. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 26 wherein a check valve is included in said mandrel and pinch rollers seal said unvulcanized hose as it is removed from said heater.

5 30. (Previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 26 wherein said heater may be selected from the group consisting of a steam heater, an infrared heater, an electric coil, and a hot air heater.

10 31. (Withdrawn) A hose made according to the process of claim 25.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously presented) A process for continuously vulcanizing hose comprising the steps of:

15 pressurizing said hose with gas under pressure through a check valve located in a mandrel;

vulcanizing said hose from outside-in using a non-contact energy source.

34. (Original) A process for continuously vulcanizing hose as claimed in claim 33 wherein said step of pressurizing said hose includes sealing said hose about said mandrel and between pinch rollers.

20 35. (Currently Amended) A process for continuously vulcanizing hose as claimed in claim 33 wherein said step of vulcanizing said hose from outside-in is performed by a

heater selected from the group of a steam heater, an electric coil, a radiant heater, and, an infrared heater, and a hot air heater.

36. (Previously presented) A process for continuously vulcanizing hose as claimed in claim 33 further comprising the steps of controlling the diameter of said hose.

5 37. (Withdrawn) A hose made according to the process of claim 32.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)

40. (Canceled)

41. (Canceled)

10 42. (Canceled)

43. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for making hose comprising: a gas supply cup; a tube interconnected to a mandrel; a woven fabric being movable over said tube and said mandrel; said mandrel and a die extrude rubber onto, into and through said woven fabric forming a hose having an interior and an exterior; a check valve affixed to said mandrel and being in communication with said tube; said gas supply cup intermittently engaging said woven fabric and supplying air through said woven fabric, into said tube, through said check valve and into said interior of said hose; and, pinch rollers pinching said hose.

15 44. (Withdrawn) An apparatus as claimed in claim 43 further comprising:
a heater surrounding but not touching said formed hose.

20 45. (Withdrawn) An apparatus as claimed in claim 43 wherein said heater is selected from the group consisting of a hot air blower, a radiant heater, or a microwave

heater.

46. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for making hose comprising: a gas supply cup interconnected with a gas supply; a tube interconnected to a mandrel; a lead-in cone affixed to said tube; a woven fabric being movable over said lead-in cone, said tube and said mandrel; a die for extruding rubber onto, into and through said woven fabric forming a hose; a check valve affixed to said mandrel and being in communication with said tube; said gas supply cup intermittently engaging said woven fabric supplying air through said woven fabric, into said lead-in cone, through said check valve and into said interior of said hose.

10 47. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for supplying gas to the interior of an elastomeric hose having a woven fabric support as it is continuously pulled out of a die comprising: a gas supply cup interconnected with a gas supply; a tube interconnected to a mandrel; a lead-in cone affixed to said tube; each of said gas supply cup and said cone includes a passageway therethrough; a check valve affixed to said tube; said gas supply cup intermittently engaging said woven fabric supplying air through said woven fabric, into said lead-in cone, through said check valve and into said interior of said hose.